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**KALAMAZOO
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
1925**

TO THE MEMBERS:

Herewith copy of the Chamber of Commerce's new publicity booklet. The Board of Directors allowed us enough money to do a good job and it resulted in the best the City had.

NOW THINK A MINUTE. Isn't there someone you know who is interested in Kalamazoo to whom you can mail this with a nice letter of transmittal? Do it twice if you can. Ask the office for additional copies and keep one on hand so you can give authentic city information when the subject comes up around your office.

The sum total of what the members can do with this booklet will be as valuable or more than that done by the Chamber of Commerce office if the members will use the booklet as indicated.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

George E. Martin
Charles Morath

Earl S. Weber, Secretary



MAIN STREET — LOOKING EAST

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

When in 1829 that sturdy pioneer and wise prophet of the future, Titus Bronson, first looked down from the hilltops upon the fertile valley of the Kalamazoo river, he wisely foresaw that here was the right location for the building of a city.

Titus Bronson saw the timbered uplands and the rich bottomlands along the beautiful river, and sensed that here was the soil with that productivity which is of primary importance in the growth of a community.

He settled here. Others came. The settlement grew, became a village, then a city.

And now within three hours' drive of Kalamazoo is a population of over one million people, of whom two-thirds live in seventy-four cities and towns in Southern Michigan and Northern Indiana.

Over one-half the urban population of Michigan, (excluding Greater Detroit) live in this zone.

This zone exceeds in population all American cities except four, nearly equals the population of five states combined, and exceeds in population sixteen states.

Within 150 miles of Kalamazoo, across level country, by train or motor, lie the buying markets of 8,000,000 people.

When it is considered that 1,800,000 parcel post packages go out from Kalamazoo yearly; that the average weight is about three pounds, and that this size package can be sent to any of 8,000,000 people at a cost of seven cents, with other rates in proportion, this economy of transportation becomes significant to many concerns shipping from this center.



CENTRAL FIRE STATION



MAIN STREET — LOOKING WEST

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

Kalamazoo stands at the hub of an area with a density of population ten times the average throughout the United States.

While it is true that few cities of equal size offer such a diversity of industrial operations, the fertile lands surrounding Kalamazoo also afford diversity of agricultural operations—a fact which does much to stabilize markets and insure adequate food supplies at reasonable prices.

Kalamazoo county produces dairy and poultry products to the value of \$1,292,000 annually. Over a million dollars worth of celery is produced here yearly. The total crop value is given as \$7,822,529.

In a small zone including Kalamazoo, 6,800 carloads of grapes valued at over \$4,000,000 are produced.

Within a comparatively small number of miles, 90 per cent of the world's peppermint, and nearly all the world's spearmint is produced annually.

Kalamazoo's central position in Southwestern Michigan places it within the area served by a most efficient group of public utility corporations.

Electric power and light are furnished in limitless quantities by a Super-System utilizing both water-power and steam generating plants, and rates are as low as the largest cities in the country. The Michigan-Bell Telephone system furnishes more phones (in proportion to population) to Kalamazoo than any other city in Michigan, with one exception.

More gas meters installed than homes in the city, a never failing supply, and a low rate are the outstanding features of the gas service in Kalamazoo.

Come to Kalamazoo to prosper and enjoy life.

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MICHIGAN STATE ARMORY



FIRST NATIONAL BANK

CIVICS

In 1918 Kalamazoo stepped out in front as a leader of cities of its class by adopting the Commission—City Manager form of Government.

Under this modern non-partisan form of city government seven Commissioners are elected at-large every two years. A city Manager is selected by the Commission and is responsible for the proper conducting of the city's business to the Commission.

The various functions of city government are subdivided into departments—each under a Director.

Department of Law.

Department of Finance.

Department of Safety.

Department of Public Works.

Department of Public Utilities.

Department of Health and Welfare.

The first City Commission adopted the “pay-as-you-go” policy of conducting city business, discontinuing the issuing of bonds for public improvements. Under this policy the bonded indebtedness of the city has been decreased from \$760,896.00 in 1919, to \$162,000.00 in 1925. We will soon be a city Government without a bonded debt.

The real and personal valuation of Kalamazoo for the year 1925 is fixed at \$73,677,000.00, and the low tax rate of 11 mills pays cost of city government.

Kalamazoo owns and operates its own Water Works, with a central station, three auxiliary pumping stations and three standpipes. The pumping capacity is about 9,000,000 gallons daily. The value of the system is \$682,584.00.



PUBLIC LIBRARY



KAL.-CITY SAVINGS BANK

CIVICS

All water is taken from deep wells and is pure and palatable. Very low water rates prevail.

Kalamazoo owns and operates its Lighting Plant which furnishes light for all streets and public buildings, and values the plant and lines at \$220,000.

Kalamazoo owns fifteen parks, with an acreage of 310, valued at over \$300,000.00.

There are 147 miles of streets — 56 1-2 miles of pavement.

Over 108 miles of sanitary sewers and 44 miles of storm sewers protect the community.

How well the city owned utilities serve the city is shown by the fact that with approximately 11,000 homes, 10,675 are customers of the Water Department, and there are 10,480 sanitary sewer connections.

The Police Department is composed of 83 men and three women, housed in a separate police station valued at \$75,000.00.

Fire protection, an essential of good government, is given by an efficient Fire Department of 83 men operating on the platoon system, with complete motorized equipment housed in six advantageously located stations. The value of the buildings is placed at \$189,476.00.

The Health Department is under the direction of a full time Physician with a competent corps of Bacteriologists, Inspectors and Nurses. Kalamazoo's death rate is exceptionally low, being 10.6.

The city owns and maintains a fine Tourist Camp Ground and a splendid, sporty Municipal Golf Course.

Kalamazoo is an economically, efficiently business-managed city from whatever angle you may investigate.

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MARLBOROUGH APARTMENTS



KALAMAZOO STATIONERY COMPANY

TRANSPORTATION

Nothing is more important when considering the location of a factory, than the facility to secure expeditious handling of shipments of raw materials and manufactured products.

Kalamazoo is located on the Michigan Central Railroad and Grand Trunk Railroad east and west, and the Pennsylvania System and New York Central Railroad north and south. The Chicago, Kalamazoo & Saginaw and the South Haven Division of the Michigan Central are feeder lines. These roads radiate in ten directions from the city.

Two great industrial and population centers — Detroit and Chicago — are located in the Middle West. Kalamazoo is located exactly half-way between these cities, a position which is enviable because of the excellent transportation service maintained.

Shipments to Chicago may take any of three routes with a 24-hour service: Michigan Central, Grand Trunk, or Motor Truck lines.

Shipments to Detroit take Michigan Central, electric, or motor truck lines.

The great trunk lines, with terminal facilities at Newport News, New York, Boston, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Montreal and Quebec, directly tap the principal storehouses of the United States.

The Michigan Central affords excellent service for both freight and passenger traffic to all principal points between New York and Chicago.

The main line of the Grand Trunk is within switching distance of Kalamazoo and is reached by a direct connection. Through its gateway and system steamship



KALAMAZOO LOOSE LEAF BINDER CO.



HUMPHREY COMPANY

TRANSPORTATION

lines, freight may go direct to the British Empire and Northern Europe.

The Chicago, Kalamazoo & Saginaw has many miles of industrial sidings closely related to the river and in contact with ideal sites for factories and institutions requiring carload shipping and an abundance of water.

The South Haven Division of the Michigan Central forms a direct connecting link with Great Lakes traffic at South Haven, Mich.

Ninety-four passenger trains on the steam lines arrive at or leave Kalamazoo daily.

Kalamazoo is the terminal point for two first class interurban lines. The Michigan Railway Company operates local and fast passenger service as well as freight and express direct to Detroit in the east, and Grand Rapids in the north, including all intermediate points. Kalamazoo is the interurban center of Western Michigan.

Six paved highways out of Kalamazoo makes the successful operation of freight trucks assured. Fourteen truck lines are operated by a number of independent companies, and the Michigan Central Railroad operates a line of motor trucks for short hauls.

With M-17, the through paved way from Detroit to Chicago, M-13, the Dixie Highway north and south, and other radiating paved ways, Kalamazoo has excellent motor transport service.

Six motor bus routes carry passengers to and from Kalamazoo to all cities and towns within a radius of fifty miles, and to many of the lake resorts surrounding Kalamazoo.

From the standpoint of rapid and economical transportation, there is no city in the Middle West better located than Kalamazoo.



SHIPPING CELERY



KALAMAZOO NATIONAL BANK

INDUSTRY

An industrial development with several classes of industry reaching a size and importance to attract attention from the country or the world, with many others sufficiently large and sufficiently diversified to give employment to practically all its working people the year 'round. That is the ambition of cities — and that is the enviable condition in Kalamazoo.

Result: Should a depression hit one class of industry, the others may be in condition to absorb the surplus labor, and the general prosperity of the city continues.

Paper leads the industries. Ten large paper companies produce 250,000 tons annually of coated papers, ledger, bond, book, writing, parchment, waxed, board and paper-eries.

The distribution carries Kalamazoo-made papers to the Government for many purposes, to the largest magazine publishing houses, the job printing establishments, to the packing plants, to crossroads creameries and bakeries everywhere.

Alphabetically, here are listed most of the industries of Kalamazoo:

Advertising Specialties
Awnings
Automobile Bodies
Automobile Sheet Metal
Bathroom Ware
Bedding
Blank Books
Blow Pipe Systems
Boats
Boilers
Boxes
Brooms

Candy
Canning Machinery
Cartons
Caskets
Castings: Grey, Malleable, Steel and Brass
Cattle Guards
Chemicals
Clothing
Corsets
Dandy Rolls and Plates
Enameled Steel Products



CLARAGE FAN COMPANY



HOME SAVINGS BANK

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INDUSTRY

Engines	Patterns
Engine Packing	Paraffine, refined
Engraving	Pharmaceuticals
Electrotypes	Photo Shutters
Fans (Ventilation)	Plating
Felt	Plumbing Castings
Fishing Tackle	Preservatives (Textile)
Floors (Composition)	Pumps
Furniture, Lodge and Camp	Railway Supplies
Garage Machine Tools	Regalia
Gas Heaters	Saw Mills
Ice Cream Pails	Scrapers (Road)
Inks	Store Fronts, Cases
Insulation (Heat)	Stoves
Labels	Stucco
Loose Leaf Binders	Sleds
Mandolins	Taxi Cabs
Mill Work	Tanks and Silos
Monuments	Transmissions
Oils (Essential)	Tablets
Oil Dispensers	Trolley Wheels
Paper: Writing, Parch- ment, Waxed, Board, Papeteries	Wells
	Wheel Pullers
	Wire Cloth
	Water Heaters

With this splendid array of manufacturing institutions it follows that Kalamazoo is well supplied with expert workmen of the steady, home-owning class — the greatest asset to an industry desiring to locate in any community.

The Chamber of Commerce will be glad to furnish detailed information on any or all industries.



COLUMBIA HOTEL



STANDARD PAPER COMPANY

TRADING

Kalamazoo's enviable position, being the largest city in Southwestern Michigan and located in the center of a forty-mile trading circle, has resulted in establishing within its gates some of the best wholesale and retail stores in the state.

Many of the stores stand as living monuments to the foresight of their founders. Their diligence and years of tireless effort in upholding a high standard of business honor and integrity, is being continued by the present generation of merchants.

Fifty-three wholesale establishments located here, supply an ever-widening territory, and with a large number of salesmen representing many lines of merchandise making Kalamazoo their headquarters, this community is in direct touch with the business of the country.

Kalamazoo's retail stores are noted for their metropolitan appearance, large volume of stocks carried, up-to-date-ness of merchandise shown, and a merchandising service usually available only in the largest cities.

Michigan's famed Fruit Belt with its many varieties of fruit and broad expanse of vineyards lies at Kalamazoo's door. Our perfect transportation facilities, rail, bus and paved roads, enable producers of the products of the farms, orchards and vegetable gardens to reach local markets economically and quickly.

Kalamazoo has long had a reputation as a city where people have the opportunity to select from large assortments of reliable merchandise, and secure the necessities of life, all at most reasonable prices.



KALAMAZOO VEGETABLE PARCHMENT CO.



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FINANCE

Kalamazoo has two National and two State Banks, and three substantial Building and Loan Associations.

The banks have a combined capital, surplus and profits of approximately \$3,000,000; assets well in excess of \$23,000,000. Their facilities for handling commercial banking business of every nature are complete, and the fact that the youngest of them has more than thirty years of successful operation to its credit, is evidence of the soundness of their policies and the quality of their helpful service.

Kalamazoo's banks are growing steadily and substantially. A banking service for corporations isn't all we have to offer. Kalamazoo's banks and Building and Loan Associations supply a scope of saving service that must appeal to the manufacturer and to his employees.

Our three Building and Loan Associations, one with a record of forty years service and over 4,000 members, have resources of several million dollars; and since their most important service is financing the building or purchase of homes, the city has no housing problem.

The savings accounts grow with every year, and the average size of such accounts makes prosperous growth the normal thing.

The manufacturer who views with favor our transportation facilities, our factory sites and labor supply, our proximity to supplies of raw materials and to markets, need have no misgivings as to what our banks can do for him, or as to the spirit in which they will volunteer their co-operation.



HAWTHORNE PAPER CO.



BRONSON PARK

Interesting Information About Kalamazoo

Population within limits.....	54,900
Population of Greater Kalamazoo.....	65,000
Area, square miles.....	8½
Altitude	775
Native born population.....	83.5
S. E. European Immigration.....	3.3
Assessed Valuation in City.....	\$73,677,000
Tax Rate—Total of property rates.....	\$32.68
Bonded Indebtedness:	
City, general.....	\$162,000
Per capita.....	\$3.15
School	\$2,569,000
Per Capita.....	\$41.43
Building Permits, 1924.....	1282
Building Permits, value	\$1,611,955
Bank Assets.....	\$23,317,738
Post Office Receipts, 1925.....	\$497,025
Post Office Carriers	46
Newspaper Circulation, daily.....	26,500
City Telephones.....	13,429
Gas Meters.....	12,670
Streets, miles of.....	147
Paved Streets, miles of.....	56½



GULL LAKE



LOVER'S LANE MILHAM PARK

Interesting Information About Kalamazoo

Sanitary Sewers, miles of.....	108
Water Mains, miles of.....	116
Gas Mains, miles of.....	92.7
Fire loss, per capita.....	\$1.80
Number of Firemen.....	83
Number of Police Officers.....	52
Number of Parks.....	15
Park Area, acres.....	310
Per capita area, sq. ft.....	250
Public Library, volumes.....	73,500
Bituminous Coal Consumption, tons per annum.....	765,000
Passenger Trains, inbound (steam roads) daily.....	47
Passenger Trains, outbound (steam roads) daily.....	47
Best Office Rentals, annum, per sq. foot.....	\$1.50
Industrial Rentals, annum, per sq. foot.....	25c
Street Car Rate.....	6¼c
Electricity, average residence rate per K. W.....	4.5
Gas Rate, per M. net.....	\$1.30
Water Rate, begins at per M. net.....	\$1.12
Insurance Rate, average per \$100.....	55c
Birth Rate.....	26.6
Death Rate.....	10.6
Assessed Valuation in Kalamazoo County....	\$112,574,000
Hard Surface Road in County, miles.....	75
Railroads in County, miles.....	115
Interurban Railroad in County, miles.....	25
Population, retail trade area.....	150,000



MILHAM PARK



WESTERN STATE NORMAL SCHOOL

EDUCATIONAL

Educationally, Kalamazoo is unique among cities, for it provides kindergarten, common school, academy, high school, normal and college training.

These advantages are offered by the Kalamazoo Public Schools, Parochial Schools, Nazareth Academy, Western State Normal and Kalamazoo College.

In addition to these there are business colleges, private art schools, schools of music, and two private schools for feeble minded.

Kalamazoo College is the oldest college in Michigan, founded in 1833. It occupies 25 acres, and has an average enrollment of 400 men and women. The college maintains a splendid library. Night school classes are open to the public during the winter terms.

Western State Normal, one of the finest and largest training schools in the country, offers two-year and limited certificate course; degrees in art and science, music and physical education. 3,500 students are enrolled in winter and summer terms.

About 2,000 pupils are enrolled in four Roman Catholic, two Holland Christian and one Seventh Day Adventist parochial schools. Nazareth Academy for girls and Barbour Hall for younger boys are part of the school life of the city.

A recent survey of the Public Schools of Kalamazoo reveals a system unsurpassed in the country. The work is divided into four departments: Early Elementary, Later Elementary, Junior High and Senior High. Fourteen modern school buildings complete the system.

Kalamazoo High School has been on the accredited list of the University of Michigan for fifty years. It occupies an imposing building, completed in 1924, which includes



CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL



BOWEN HALL — KALAMAZOO COLLEGE

EDUCATIONAL

a magnificent auditorium seating 2,700 people. The High School enrollment is about 1,500 students.

Particular attention is paid to the health of the school children. A capable corps of physical education teachers, a school physician, three visiting nurses, a school dentist and dental hygienist are employed.

Classes in vocational guidance for boys provide for half-time shop work and half-time related academic work.

A part-time Continuation School provides for eight hours per week for all boys and girls under 17 years of age who find it necessary to take up outside work before they have completed the tenth grade. For such, attendance at this school is compulsory.

Free Night School for the public, held for twenty weeks, offers work in commercial, industrial, mathematics, English, household arts and citizenship. The night classes are attended annually by a large percentage of the relatively few foreign born residents, by young people who have gone into commercial life, and by older men and women holding responsible positions in Kalamazoo's industries.

The Kalamazoo Public Library co-operates with the Public schools in addition to its important contribution to the business and home life of the community at large. The central library with its numerous branches, catalogues approximately 75,000 volumes, as well as a vast amount of current literature.

The educational advantages of the city, are indeed very vital, among the reasons why Kalamazoo is a splendid city in which to live.



AUDITORIUM — CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL



NEW BURDICK HOTEL

FRATERNAL AND SOCIAL

In a fraternal way, Kalamazoo offers all that can be desired in community achievement or secret society circles that tend to accomplish an universal brotherhood.

Every section of the city and many of the outlying suburbs, have their community societies that bring the residents into closer relationship, bringing about a mutual understanding and endeavor to secure the things that are most beneficial to the greatest number.

Club life in Kalamazoo embraces practically every conceivable social and industrial feature of the community, and the aims and accomplishments are a credit to the city as a whole. The leading clubs are the Kiwanis, Rotary, Exchange, Lions, the Advertising Club, Employment Managers, Credit Managers and Accountants. The Park Club, down town, and two Country clubs in the suburbs, cater to a distinct element of the population.

Among women's clubs are the Ladies' Library Association, Twentieth Century, Altrusa, and the Business & Professional Women's Club, each of which are cogs in the wheel of progress, making Kalamazoo a better city in which to live and do business.

There are other organizations which link into the social life of the city in a varied field. Some of these are the Daughters of the American Revolution, United Commercial Travelers, Knights of Columbus, Catholic Daughters of America, Holland American Aid Society, Holland Mutual Aid Society, Polish American Club, Workingmen's Benevolent Society, Civic Improvement League, Grand Army of the Republic, Women's Relief Corps, Spanish-American War Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the American Legion. Several of these organizations are housed in their own club houses



LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL



PARK-AMERICAN HOTEL

FRATERNAL AND SOCIAL

where frequent gatherings help to make up the social life of an up-to-date city. Thousands of Kalamazoo's population are daily or frequent patrons of fraternal society club homes.

The Masonic Temple is the meeting place of Anchor, Kalamazoo and Fidelity Masonic Lodges, Kalamazoo Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, Kalamazoo Council R. & S. M., Peninsular Commandery, Knights Templar, Corinthian Chapter Order of the Eastern Star, White Shrine of Jerusalem, and the Order of DeMolay.

The Benevolent Protective Order of Elks have a fine club house which is soon to be enlarged. The Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, and Loyal Order of Moose own their own buildings which have club features and large assembly rooms.

The Maccabees are very much alive with tents and hives, while the Modern Woodmen of America, Knights and Ladies of Security, Ben Hur, Royal Neighbors, Royal Arcanum and other fraternal insurance societies are active in supervising and securing protection for their membership.

Visitors from other cities, and those coming to Kalamazoo to reside will find a hearty welcome extended by their brother and sister members of the various lodges, societies and clubs to which they may belong.

These lodges, societies and clubs have a membership of several thousand which includes many men and women who are prominent in the business and social life of the city.



ROOSEVELT SCHOOL



ST. LUKE'S CHURCH (EPISCOPAL)

CHURCHES

The religious life of Kalamazoo may be said to operate through, and radiate from, her 57 churches and religious organizations of some 25 denominations and faiths. The ministers and pastors of these various groups are recognized as the sky pilots of civil and religious affairs of the city—the dependable advance guard in the fight for moral and religious progress.

Religion may be qualified as “a system of faith and worship”—a manner of recognition of an over-ruling power or the Supreme Being. Man is naturally religious, and Kalamazoo folks are no exception.

Kalamazoo's churches and religious organizations are active centers for the development of those moral and religious forces which enter so largely into the highest type of civilization. Such centers are quite generally recognized as absolutely essential to the best conditions of society. Religious forces of church and school in Kalamazoo foster a high degree of intellectual and moral worth, and the broad point of view of leading divines has had the happy effect of cementing cordial relationships despite creedal differences.

Commercially the real estate man appreciates the value of religion and the consequent religious institutions in any community. Church buildings are usually of outstanding architecture, are an asset, and neighboring property is more desirable.

Church buildings of Kalamazoo generally, are of highly artistic types, and add much to the architectural beauty of the city. Many have interior decorations that vie with the famous cathedrals of the Old World.



YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION



NEW BORGESS HOSPITAL

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ALTRUISTIC

Kalamazoo's altruistic spirit is exemplified in many organizations and institutions, which are ever ready to help those in distress, care for the unfortunate, or elevate its citizenship.

The Associated Charities, financed by a community budget, consists of the Civic Improvement League which looks after the city's poor, conducts infant welfare, pre-school dental, pre-natal, tuberculosis, tonsil and adenoidal clinics and promotes general community welfare; Crib-side Society; St. Agnes Foundling Home; Whatsoever Free Bed Association; Child's Welfare League; Children's Aid Society; and Douglas Community House for Negroes.

The Young Men's Christian Association and Young Women's Christian Association, both housed in splendid buildings, provide dormitories, gymnasiums, swimming pools, etc., and take an active interest in the care and upbuilding of the young men and women of the city.

Three homes for the aged are operated under denominational control. Six hospitals of the major class care for the sick and injured. One hospital is under state control, one municipal, three denominational and two private. All are excellently equipped and offer admirable service at moderate rates. Both Old and New Borgess and Bronson hospitals are liberal in their care of charity patients.

Pretty Lake Vacation Camp provides outings for the children of the less fortunate during the summer months.

A Boy's Farm cares for indigent boys and supervises their education. An Orphan's Home cares for girls.

Several patrols of Boy and Girl Scouts are active in scout work and are provided with summer camps.



YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION



RICKMAN HOTEL

RECREATION

Whatever your recreational hobby may be, Kalamazoo presents the opportunity to indulge in it.

Fishing, boating, bathing in summer; duck hunting, ice-boating, skating in winter, on the scores of lakes in the vicinity.

Thousands of cottages and many resort hotels dot the shores of the lakes.

Many athletic fields and six playgrounds under the direction of the City Recreational Department, provide outdoor sports for adult and child.

Football, baseball, track and basketball teams of the colleges furnish high class athletic contests.

Twelve baseball diamonds are daily occupied in season by Business, Factory and Church leagues.

Two Country club golf courses and the Municipal Golf Course cater to golf enthusiasts.

For years Kalamazoo has been the only city in Michigan having a Grand Circuit Race Meet. The best horses in the country come here annually.

Three fine theatres furnish vaudeville and the best in road shows and pictures. There are also two exclusive picture houses. Continuous shows provide entertainment at all times.

The Redpath Chautauqua is an annual event under the auspices of the Western State Normal.

The Auditoriums of the Central High and Lincoln High Schools, and the Armory, are occupied during the winter season by splendid courses of entertainment that bring world-famous artists.

The music lover finds pleasure in Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra concerts, recitals by Metropolitan artists and local musicians of note. Kalamazoo is noted for its excellent music. Municipal band concerts are held throughout the summer season in the parks.



GULL LAKE COUNTRY CLUB



MASONIC TEMPLE

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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Kalamazoo Chamber of Commerce exists "to promote the civic, economic and social welfare of Kalamazoo and vicinity." It is a standard organization affiliated with the Chamber of Commerce of the United States.

Permanent departments working within their scope are, the Industrial, Traffic, Convention, Wholesale and Retail Bureaus. Various committees with special objectives are set at work as conditions warrant.

The Industrial Bureau has a field secretary of experience in industrial affairs. He will assist in securing property by lease or sale for prospective firms. He will make compilations of information, markets, etc., and will assist in suggesting a method of procedure for the location of a firm or factory in Kalamazoo.

The Convention Bureau is on the alert to invite conventions and aid in their accommodation. The Bureau is composed of many representative business firms.

The Traffic Bureau, with a full-time man in charge, is at the service of Kalamazoo shippers and receivers of freight. The Bureau protects the community by rectifying unfair rates, thereby opening new markets and giving manufacturers a fair field against competitors. Rates and routes are designated. Better means of transportation are developed. The Bureau saves its clients thousands of dollars by recovery on rates charged in error.

The Retail Bureau and the Wholesale Bureau of the Chamber of Commerce counts among its members all substantial business firms of the city, representing every line of wholesale and retail business.

The Chamber of Commerce is a voluntary organization supported by the money and work of the leading men



KALAMAZOO COUNTRY CLUB — WHITE'S LAKE



STATE HOSPITAL

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

(Continued)

and firms of the city. These men understand that the price of progress is group thinking and acting—that there is competition between cities just as there is between commercial firms. Their civic spirit, let us call it plus citizenship, has resulted in a city, not one of virtue, but of many virtues. Kalamazoo as a city has its share of natural advantages—location, lakes and rivers, good water, beautifully wooded valleys and hills. Kalamazoo citizens have added their contribution of man-made advantages which have been recited in this booklet.

Indicative of the ambition for progress, the Chamber of Commerce in the last two years has secured or taken part in securing the following advantages—Annual County Fair, a River Front Park of ninety acres, Auto Club, Municipal Golf Course, house re-numbering, many important conventions, freight rate adjustments, etc.

Kalamazoo lays claim to a well-balanced and harmonious development of the characteristics of a good city—work and business, education and government, living conditions, recreation and health.

Kalamazoo could easily name several features regarding which it is "First in the United States". Such features mean little to the family who moves to a city to live and work. Those who are considering Kalamazoo, can be sure that it has a full quota of advantages for every member of the family.

Should Kalamazoo be checked, in comparison with cities of its class, by a standard that would measure all the essentials necessary for a satisfactory city in which to live and work, it would be found well up near the top.



FAIRMOUNT HOSPITAL



BRONSON METHODIST HOSPITAL

AN INVITATION

To those seeking suitable locations for factories; to those desiring more specific information regarding any subject covered by this booklet, the Chamber of Commerce invites correspondence. Prompt attention will be given to all inquiries. Address:

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

421 W. Main St.

KALAMAZOO, MICH.

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OLD BORGESS HOSPITAL